

brosus. In several of the specimens (and this is apparently true of all the *Actinocrini*), the opening into this convoluted sac is wider at the apex, and becomes gradually attenuated below and pointed toward the centre of the basal plates, where it is attached. The lower portion is twisted not unlike the lower portion of some univalve shells, and this organ in one specimen presents a very close resemblance to a small *Bulla* or similar shell. In *Actinocrinus longirostris* this organ is proportionately very large, the sides straighter and less curved, and very wide at the top.—*Proc. Boston Soc. N. H.* x. 33.

On the Fossil British Oxen.—Part I. *Bos Urus, Cæsar.*

By W. BOYD DAWKINS, Esq., M.A., F.R.S.

The problem of the origin of our domestic races of cattle was considered by the author to be capable of solution only after a careful examination of each of the three European fossil species of Oxen, namely, *Bos Urus* of Cæsar, *B. longifrons* of Owen, and *B. bison* of Pliny. In this paper he began the inquiry with *Bos Urus*, Cæsar, being the *Bos primigenius* of Bojanus, and he arrived at the conclusion that between this species and *Bos Taurus*, or the common Ox, there is no difference of specific value, though the difference in size and some other characters of minor value render the bones of the two varieties capable of recognition. After giving the synonymy of *Bos Urus* in some detail, and measurements of the different bones as represented by specimens from a number of localities, Mr. Boyd Dawkins described the range of the species in space and time, showing that it coexisted in Britain with the Mammoth, *Rhinoceros leptorhinus*, *R. megarhinus*, and *R. tichorhinus*, and was associated with *Elephas antiquus*, *Felis spelæa*, *Ursus spelæus*, *U. arctos*, *Bos priscus*, *Megaceros Hibernicus*, *Cervus elaphus*, *C. tarandus*, *Equus fossilis*, &c., and held its ground during the Prehistoric period, after most of these animals had become extinct or retreated from this country. The precise date of its extinction in Britain was stated to be somewhat uncertain, although the author inclined to the belief that it existed in the wild state as late as the middle of the 12th century; while on the continent it seems probable that it lingered until the 16th century. The author then endeavoured to explain its gradual diminution in size by the progressive encroachment of cultivation on its old haunts; and in conclusion stated his belief that at least the larger cattle of Western Europe are the descendants of the *Bos Urus*, modified in many respects by restricted range, but still more by the domination of man.—*Proc. Geol. Soc.* March 21, 1866.

Note on the Presence of Teeth on the Maxillæ of Spiders.

By Miss STAVELEY.

I do not find in Dr. Blackwall's 'Monograph of the British Spiders,' or in M. Simon's 'Histoire Naturelle des Aranéides,' or in any other work which I have had an opportunity of consulting, that the occurrence of teeth on the maxillæ of Spiders has been noticed.

On the maxillæ of six out of seven Spiders which I have examined, belonging to various genera, there is a row of very regular and perfectly formed teeth on the outer edge of the extremity of the maxilla. These teeth vary slightly in form in the different species, and the first of the row is sometimes unlike the succeeding teeth. The species examined were:—

<i>Agelena labyrinthica</i> , ♀.	<i>Theridion quadripunctatum</i> , ♀.
<i>Salticus scenicus</i> , ♀.	<i>Epeira callophylla</i> , ♀.
<i>Theridion nervosum</i> , ♀.	<i>Tetragnatha extensa</i> , ♀.
— <i>lineatum</i> , ♀.	

Of these only one of the Theridions showed no teeth; but the specimen was not satisfactory, being ill prepared and mounted. The jaw of one (*Agelena labyrinthica*) presented an appearance of a second row of teeth, forming a waved line running down the surface of the maxillæ, and quite distinct from the marginal row; but as this occurred in no other species examined, nor even in another individual of the same species, as it seemed much less substantial than the marginal row, and presented other suspicious appearances, and as the specimen was prepared and mounted before the teeth were observed, I cannot be sure, without the examination of other specimens, that this is a genuine row of teeth. Unfortunately the fellow jaw was thrown away without being looked at.

Fig. 1.

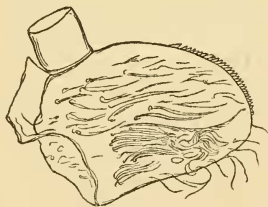


Fig. 2.



Fig. 1. The jaw of *Agelena labyrinthica*, magnified.
2. The beginning of the row, more highly magnified.

In one or more specimens the teeth appear to have been worn or broken by use. All the specimens referred to are mounted in Canada balsam, and are now in the collection of the British Museum*.—*Proc. Zool. Soc.* 1865, p. 673.

* [Since this paper was read, Miss Staveley has examined several other species of Spiders, and found these teeth developed in all of them.—*J. E. GRAY.*]